

Newport & Bristol County Convention & Visitors Bureau

DBA Discover Newport

Board of Directors Meeting

11:30am – Tuesday April 15, 2014

Held at:

The Providence Public Library

150 Empire St.

Providence, RI

MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order at 11:34am by Chairman Len Panaggio.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Len Panaggio, Barbara Pelletier, Pieter Roos, Matt Gineo, Paul Rodrigues, Brewer Rowe, Kathleen Seguin, Karen Oakley, Laurie Stroll, Frank Sallee, Nancy Blount, Stephan Brigidi

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED WERE: Greg Fater, Rocky Kempenaar, Duncan Maio, Katie Wilkinson, Marlin Scalzi, Rick Peckham

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Evan Smith, Kathryn Farrington, Anna

Duffy, Tim Walsh

NOTE: Chairman Len Panaggio introduced our new Jamestown representative Frank Sallee, owner and operator of the Lionel Champlin Guest House.

GUESTS PRESENT WERE: Terry Horsley, representing the Newport and Jamestown Record, filmed the meeting.

I. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The previous meeting minutes for March, 2014 were reviewed by the board. The financial report for March was not voted on because the books are still open as we are closing out the fiscal year end. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Pieter Roos and seconded by Karen Oakley. The motion passed unanimously.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Alyson Adkins explained that the financial committee did not meet but members were emailed the check register for review. Audit will be in May. A 1 year rental agreement on the gift shop has been signed by Bedazzled starting on 5/1/14. They have agreed to purchase some of the remaining inventory. Discussion followed.**
- The April Blue Cross & Blue Shield bill reflected a 5% decrease in premiums.**

III. PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Evan Smith reported on the following:

- Evan thanked the board for taking the time out of their workday to attend this joint meeting with the Providence/Warwick CVB held in Providence. He remarked on the history of the Providence Public Library building, availability of renting for special events and mentioned that Russell Morin Catering is used exclusively at this venue. Patti Goldstein, Vice President of Public Affairs & Air Service Marketing will be speaking on the expansion of T.F. Green airport.
- RIPTA has been awarded a federal \$1.5 million dollar grant to be used to renovate and repair damage to the Visitors Center from Hurricane Sandy. RIPTA will be doing the RFP's for the work to be completed.
- Evan would like to meet with each of the municipal appointees in the near future to discuss strengths, opportunities and outline challenges for all of the 9 communities.
- Gubernatorial candidate Gina Ramondo's staff asked to use the visitor's center to meet with our staff to discuss travel and tourism in RI. At the conclusion of the session Ms. Raimondo passed out a written copy of her plan to develop tourism. Evan will email the board a copy of the handout. Discussion followed.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Len Panaggio and seconded by Matt Gineo. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:11pm to allow for presentations and the joint meeting with the Providence/Warwick CVB.

**The next Board Meeting will be held
Tuesday, May 20th @ 12pm
at The Norman Bird Sanctuary
583 Third Beach Road
Middletown, RI**